

THE NAUTILUS.

VOL. XXV.

DECEMBER, 1911.

No. 8

A NEW GENUS OF BIVALVES FROM BERMUDA.

BY WILLIAM HEALEY DALL.

Among various minute shells sent for examination to the National Museum by Mr. Arthur Haycock, of Bermuda, is a minute triangular bivalve which at first looks like a very small, solid *Cumingia*, but on careful scrutiny under a compound microscope proves to be a new genus of the family *Mesodesmatidae*. One complete specimen and a single valve are in the collection of Mr. Haycock.

ARGYRODONAX, n. g.

Shell small, concentrically sculptured, porcellanous, with a minute, smooth, nearly circular prodissoconch. Hinge formula $\frac{L.1.0r101.1.}{R.0.1r010.0}$
Pallial sinus large and deep, muscular scars large and strong; possessing a feeble external ligament and a narrow but strong resilium. General form tellinoid. Type:

ARGYRODONAX HAYCOCKI, n. sp.

Shell small, white, subtriangular, attenuated behind; sculpture of concentric threads growing coarser and more or less irregularly grouped toward the margin; lunular space impressed but not defined by any limiting sculpture; there is no escutcheon; ligament feeble, short, amphidetic external; resilium narrow, strong, situated in front of the posterior left cardinal tooth, and in the right valve in front of a ridge, which may be a feeble cardinal tooth or merely the raised

edge of the resiliifer; the right valve has a short, stout anterior and a high, thin, elongate posterior lateral tooth; both the laterals fit under the margin of the left valve with no obvious sockets. The anterior end of the shell is longer than the posterior, and is rounded; the shorter posterior end is subtriangular; the muscular scars are large for the size of the valve, especially the posterior scar; the pallial sinus is deep, high, rounded behind, confluent with the pallial line below.

Length 5.5, height 4.5, max. diam. 2.6 mm.

Habitat: Bermuda.

This shell is perhaps nearest to *Anapella*, which has no pallial sinus and a simpler hinge-armature. I know of no other genus of the family which can be said to approach it more nearly.

A NEW BRACHIOPOD FROM BERMUDA.

BY WILLIAM HEALEY DALL.

Another of Mr. Haycock's interesting discoveries is a small brachiopod belonging to the genus *Argyrotheca* (formerly *Cistella*), which occurs in the shell sand of Bermuda.

ARGYROTHECA BERMUDANA, n. sp.

Shell minute, varying from nearly circular to slightly quadrate-rounded, with a feeble concave median inflection of the hæmal valve which does not obviously undulate the distal margin. Color white, clouded with pale scarlet; area wide, smooth, with a very large triangular opening for the pedicel; surface smooth with rather large punctations. Hinge teeth short, strong. Ventral valve with a median, rather low septum, extending nearly to the distal margin. Hæmal valve with a strong septum, widest distally and with a distinctly serrate front edge. Apophyses broad and horizontally incurved, and in large part free from the valve except near the septum. The largest specimen is 2.5 mm. wide and about as high, moderately convex.

None of the specimens contained the remains of the animal. In form and character this is a very distinct species; in color it may be